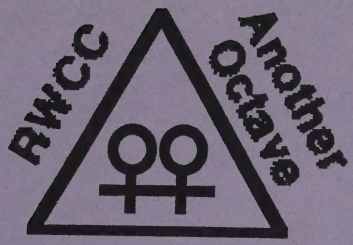

The Rochester Women's Chorus & Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus

Saturday, May 8, 1993

Calvary St. Andrews Church

Greetings!

This evening is the culmination of months of planning and singing.

On March 27th, the RWCC traveled to New Haven, Connecticut, and shared the stage with Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus. It was a wonderful, exhilarating weekend.

Tonight, we are thrilled to present the Rochester debut of AO/CWC as beautiful women make beautiful music together.

OMEGA
is an organization for gay men and women over 35
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Call Jan (223-1748) or Corky (924-8270)
for event and membership information
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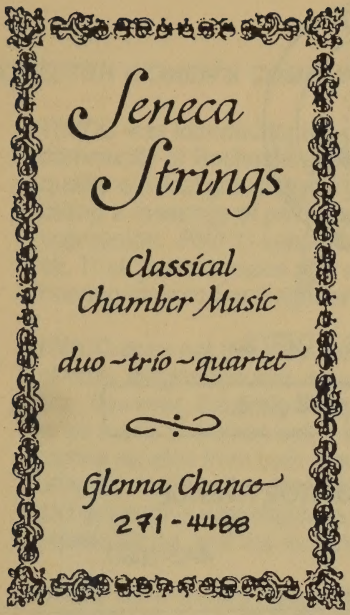

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Psychotherapist

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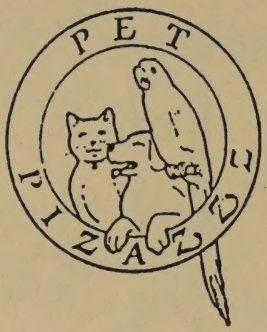

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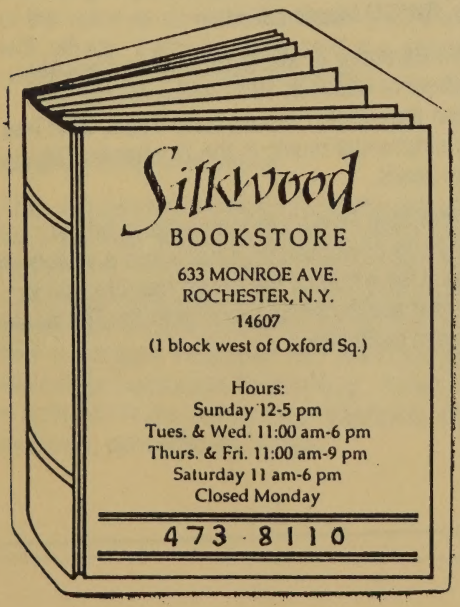
ROCHESTER WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CHORUS

RWCC was founded for the purpose of bringing music to the community of Rochester. It is dedicated to being a high-quality musical group that provides a vehicle for communicating a message of peace, understanding, and non-oppression. RWCC supports human rights for the benefit of all. Their performances and rehearsals are accessible to the hearing-impaired and differently-abled.

RWCC does not discriminate in its membership on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or political affiliation; however, the performing (vocal) aspect of the chorus is to be made of women only. In all other aspects, RWCC welcomes support from both men and women. RWCC seeks to bring its music to the general population, including gay and gay-supportive organizations, women's groups, political organizations, and the musical community.

RWCC reserves the right to decline invitations to perform at functions or events that RWCC deems prejudicial or discriminatory in nature or contradict the philosophy of RWCC.



WHO'S WHO IN THE PROGRAM

Anne Altor, Accompanist

Anne has schooled herself in improvised cacophony with the piano as a medium for various states of consciousness. She also likes growing plants, idiosyncratic cats, drumming circles, and general experimentation. She's pursuing training to be a massage therapist. She does a radio show on WRUR 88.5 FM Mondays from 3-5 P.M., with a different name.

Joy Duskin, ASL Interpreter

Joy has been working as a sign language interpreter for fifteen years. She has attended Gallaudet University and was privileged to be one of the first graduates of their AAS program for Interpreting for the Deaf in 1980. She holds a Bachelor in Fine Arts Degree from SUNY at Geneseo and is currently working towards her MFA in Weaving and Textile Design at RIT/NTID.

Deborah Wachspress, RWCC Music Director

Deborah received a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from the Crane School of Music in 1979 and a Master's Degree in Education from SUNY Geneseo in 1984. She has taught vocal and instrumental music in the Rochester City Schools for thirteen years.

Deborah's goal in founding RWCC in 1985 was to bring together a diverse group of women who have had a variety of singing experiences. Using music, the group has brought its' message of peace and social consciousness to the Rochester community for the past eight years.

Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus

Founded in the Fall of 1989, Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus celebrates our choices and experiences through the power of music. Open to all women, the chorus performs an eclectic repertoire, including standard concert pieces as well as traditional and contemporary music which reflects women's lives. Members come from varied backgrounds and lifestyles, and bring with them differing degrees of musical training. Together, we work for musical excellence and perform for the pleasure of our audiences and ourselves.

Lydia Franks, AO/CWC Musical Director

Lydia is in her second season as director of Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus. She holds music degrees from SUNY at Fredonia and Florida State University. Lydia teaches flute and recorder locally in New Haven, Connecticut. Her introduction to choral music came at an early age, when she sang in church and school choirs. She has a great love of the voice as an instrument and enjoys sharing that love with others. Lydia looks forward to a great future for AO/CWC with many more exciting concerts!

Abie Abrams, ASL Interpreter

Abie, a seasoned member of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, has worked extensively in the field of deaf-blind interpreting for seven years. During the 1990-91 season, Abie made several guest appearances with the CRIDDERS, a musical performing group for the deaf based in Connecticut. She is currently employed as a staff interpreter at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Abie's love for the theater is reflected in her interpreting repertoire, which includes musicals, concerts, and plays.

MUSIC SELECTIONS

1. ***The Joint Choruses***

Sky Dances _____ *J. Durham*
arr. Jennifer Stasack

Debbie Announces change — Welcome

3. ***Rochester Women's Community Chorus***

Shoshone Love Song _____ *Roger Emerson*

Testimony _____ *Ferron*

Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name
Traditional

Charlottetown _____ *Arr. Charles Terhure*

Think of Me _____ *Traditional*

Reverse

2. ***Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus***

Shto Mie Milo _____ *Traditional Macedonian*
Collected by Anne Warner

Rozhinkes mit Mandlen _____ *Yiddish/Lil Moed*
Arr. Sue Fink

Allu Mari Mi Portati _____ *Catherine Madsen*
Arr. Barrett & Smith

Trio: Carole Arnol, Paula Casner, Renee LaMontage, Flute: Susan Weeks, Recorder: Mary Bartlett, Percussion: Liz Corbett & Amy Weiss

4. ***The Undertones***

Shut de Do' _____ *traditional*
Arr. Maria Wasson

Con El Viento _____ *Spanish Renaissance*

Bring Me a Little Water, Sylvie ___ *Woodie Guthrie*

It's You That I Need _____ *E. Holland/N.Whitfield*

Intermission 50-50 Raffle

RWCC Ensemble

The Lion Sleeps Tonight _____ *Arr. Roger Emerson*

What I'll Do _____ *Irving Berlin*

On Children _____ *Ysaye Barnwerl*

My Girlfriend's Back

The Undertones & RWCC Ensemble

Full Moonlight Dance _____ *Karen Beth*

Rochester Women's Community Chorus

Family _____ *Henry Krieger*

Something About Women _____ *Holly Near*

The Joint Choruses

African Freedom Songs (Freedom Is Coming, Asikhatali, Akananmandla, We Shall Not Give Up the Fight)
Anonymous

Another Octave: Connecticut Women's Chorus

Hotaru Koi _____ *Traditional Japanese*

Ca' the Yowes _____ *Traditional Scottish*
Arr. Mary Getze

Solos: Paula Casner & Janet Jandreau, Piano: Mary Bartlett

Hana'ava Babanot _____ *Hebrew/ A. Neeman*
Arr. Miriam Davidson

Big-Boned Gal _____ *k.d. lang*
Arr. Rachel Alexander

Announce Change

The Joint Choruses

This We Know _____ *Chief Seattle/Ron Jeffers*

This Is My Song _____ *L. Stone/J. Sibelius*

Please join us for a reception after the concert.

PROGRAM NOTES

Sky Dances Made popular in the women's community by Holly Near.

Shoshone Love Song Uses traditional Shoshone lyrics.

Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name
From the magnificent repertoire of the Negro spiritual, music that is beauty born of sorrow.

Shto Mie Milo A Macedonian women's song about the joys of village life. Thanks to Denise Bowles for coaching us on the pronunciation and inspiring us to sing in chest voices we didn't know we had.

Rozhinkes Mit Mandlen
Raisin and almonds, a Russian Yiddish lullaby. *Near Maikele's cradle, hear five thousand voices from strong women of the world. They call her to live free and love. Sleep Maikele, sleep.*

Allu Mari Mi Portati
In Naples in the XV to XVII centuries, multitudes of women thronged to the sea rather than to submit to the Inquisition. The Italian lyrics are based on the hymns the women sang as they cast themselves into the water.

Shut de Do' Thanks to *Take Note*, a Denver Women's Chorus group, for this arrangement.

Con el Viento A Spanish renaissance piece which we learned from the singing of Libana. *I fell asleep in the dunes, listening to the sond of the wind on the waves.*

Bring Me a Little Water Sylvie
Thanks to Alison Farrell, who performed with the Undertones and taught them this song.

On Children Performed often by *Sweet Honey in the Rock.* Lyrics by poet Kahlil Gibran.

African Freedom Songs

Freedom is Coming, a song of faith and hope for life without Apartheid.

Asikhatali ("it doesn't matter if you should jail us, we are free and kept alive by hope")

Akanamandla ("he has no power")

Hotaru Koi A traditional Japanese round. *Come firefly, come. Over the water is nasty. Over here the water is sweet.*

Hana'ava Babanot

Hebrew love song. *Fairest of maidens, let your eyes shine upon me. Embrace me again and again.*

Big-Boned Gal Our detour to southern Alberta. Yee haw! Thanks to Rachel Alexander, director of Sistrum (Lansing, Michigan's women's chorus) for this arrangement.

This Is My Song The tune is the familiar melody from Jean Sibelius' symphonic poem, *Finlandia.*

Something About Women a "classic" in womyn's literature.

Family This song, which has become RWCC's anthem, is taken from the Broadway musical, *Dreamgirls.*

Testimony by Vancouver musician Ferron, expresses deep feelings about her personal experiences.

*THE ROCHESTER WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CHORUS**

FIRST SOPRANOS

Tawn Feeney
Betty Martin
Kitty Moran

SECOND SOPRANOS

Mary Ellen Ford
Barbara Harte
Terry Keister
Elise Tooley

FIRST ALTOS

Trish Butcher
Jan Metcalf
Kathy Pawlaczyk

SECOND ALTOS

Jessica Angie
Laura Bollinger
Helen Gray
Kathy Sanger

RWCC ENSEMBLE

Terry Keister
Betty Martin
Jan Metcalf
Elise Tooley
Trish Butcher

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Direction, Judy Lochman
Program, Maria Sohn

We would like to gratefully acknowledge Pinnacle Place for providing rehearsal space.

* The RWCC is a member of GALA Choruses.

The GALA (Gay and Lesbian Association) Choruses is an alliance of nearly 100 men's, women's, and mixed choruses in the United States, Canada, western Europe, and Australia.

GALA Choruses produces a festival every 4 years — the last one was in Denver in 1992 — and also holds annual conferences for directors and managers to address problems of mutual concern and assist with the sharing of music repertoire.

Their offices are located at 1617 East 22nd Ave., Denver, CO 80205.

*ANOTHER OCTAVE: CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S CHORUS**

FIRST SOPRANOS
Jane Jandreau
Robin Kenna
Renee LaMontagne
Lisa Rommel

SECOND SOPRANOS
Linda Bray
Paula Casner
Marilyn Russell
Laura Sarvay
Karen Sunderhauf
Pat Upton

FIRST ALTOS
Mary Bartlett
Liz Corbett
Vicki Marcheski
Mary Grenci
Amy Weiss

SECOND ALTOS
Carole Arnold
Cathy Farrel
Rhea Hirshman
Susan Smith
Carol Walter
Leora Zimmer

THE UNDERTONES
Mary Bartlett
Paula Casner
Rhea Hirshman
Renee LaMontagne
Amy Weiss
Leora Zimmer

FLUTE
Susan Weeks

* The AO/CWC is a member of GALA Choruses and of the Sister Singers Network.

The Sister Singers Network, founded in the early 1980's, is an association of over 40 women's choruses and several dozen composers from the United States, Canada, and England.

The Network provides a directory of composers and women's choruses, and gives its members the opportunity to share music and singing. The Network also holds choral festivals — it's 7th festival will be held this Summer in Cincinnati.
Their mailing address is P.O. Box 7065, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407.

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Thank you for sharing your music — Rick & Carol
Chuck Lundeen & John Williams
Trish & Reverend Cathy Elliot, Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church
Connie L. Clay & Leigh Eresman
Prefiero una canción en mi corazón que la luz de las estrellas en el cielo.
Good luck from Debby & Howard
Break a leg!
We love you, Red! From Aspen, Kisa, Spike and Heidi

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